

## CLAIMS

## 1. A compound of formula (I)

5       $M_1-L_1-(\text{Val-Arg-Leu-Pro-Pro-Pro})_x-L_2-M_2$   
              (I)

or a pharmaceutically or a biologically acceptable salt thereof, wherein  
Val is L-Val or D-Val;  
10     Arg is L-Arg, D-Arg or L-(N-methyl)Arg;  
Pro is L-Pro or D-Pro;  
Leu is L-Leu or D-Leu;  
x is an integer from 1 to 20;  
L<sub>1</sub> and L<sub>2</sub> are chemical linkers, which are identical or different, present  
15     or absent;  
M<sub>1</sub> and M<sub>2</sub> are pharmacologically and/or biologically active moieties,  
which are identical or different, present or absent; and  
the bond between L<sub>1</sub> and M<sub>1</sub> and the bond between L<sub>2</sub> and M<sub>2</sub> are of  
any of the known chemical natures, including covalent and ionic.

20                  2. The compound according to claim 1, wherein chemical linkers  
are independently selected from peptide sequences up to 10 amino acid  
residues.

25                  3. The compound according to claim 1, wherein  
pharmacologically and/or biologically active moieties are active  
pharmaceutical ingredients, nucleic acids, peptide nucleic acids,  
peptides, proteins, carbohydrates, lipids, sterols, nanoparticles,  
antibodies, dyes or probes.

30                  4. The compound according to any of the claims 1-3, wherein x is  
from 1 to 10.

5. The compound according to claim 4, wherein x is from 1 to 3.

35                  6. The compound according to claim 5, wherein x is 3.

7. The compound according to claim 1, wherein L<sub>1</sub>, L<sub>2</sub>, M<sub>1</sub> and M<sub>2</sub> are all absent and, consequently the compound of formula (I) is (Val-Arg-Leu-Pro-Pro-Pro)<sub>x</sub>.

5           8. The compound according to claim 7, wherein x is 3.

9. The compound according to claim 7, having a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1-6.

10          10. Use of the compound as defined in any of the claims 7-9 as cell penetrating carrier.

11. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound defined in any of the claims 1-6, 15 together with appropriate amounts of pharmaceutical excipients.

12. A cosmetic composition comprising a cosmetically effective amount of the compound defined in any of the claims 1-6, together with appropriate amounts of cosmetic excipients.